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A1-2766/8

**37 CFR 1.116 Amendment**  
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1-30-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of **Michael A. Epstein**  
Serial No.: **08/994,878**  
Filed: **12/19/97**  
Title: **ADMINISTRATION AND UTILIZATION OF PRIVATE KEYS IN A NETWORKED ENVIRONMENT**

Atty. Docket No.: **PHA 23-313**  
Group Art Unit: **2766**  
Examiner: **Ho S. Song**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 29 2002**

**Technology Center 2100**

**Amendment/Reply After Final Office Action**

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply in the above-identified application in response to the final Office Action dated 23 May 2001.

Please cancel claim 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. McDermott, Esq.  
Reg. No. 41,508  
804-493-0707

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
**COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, Washington, D.C. 20231**

On 22 October 2001

By

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